

Special Issue

Religions in Ritual, Spectacle, and Drama in the Medieval & Early Modern World

Message from the Guest Editors

Religions in Ritual, Spectacle, and Drama in the Medieval & Early Modern World focuses specifically on the religious under- and over-pinnings of spectacle, ritual, and drama (in any and all senses of the terms) throughout the medieval and early modern world. In particular, the issue highlights the ways in which spectacle enacts religion and religion enacts spectacle; whether a secular play or a holy celebration, the use of spectacle, drama, and ritual participates in the reification, codification, and/or subversion of cultural assumptions and practices. This Special Issue specifically demonstrates how spectacle and ritual—of both the sacred and secular varieties—interact with varying religious cultures across the global medieval and early modern world. The essays contained in this issue address how spectacle and ritual helped to reinforce or undermine expected religious belief and practice, as well as how they either discouraged or reinforced religious pluralism and toleration as beliefs and cultures came into contact with one another's cultural traditions. We look forward to receiving your contributions.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

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About the Journal

Message from the Editorial Board

Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

Religions is inviting innovative and comparative contributions. Please consider Religions as an exceptional, exciting enterprise ready to reward your trust, attention, and participation.

Editors-in-Chief

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Journal Rank:

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 24.5 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 4.9 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the second half of 2025).